

NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1895.—TWENTY-EIGHT PAGES

FINE SPORT ON THE TURF.

THE RACING AT SHEEPSHEAD BAY.

INTERESTING FEATURES OF THE CONTESTS— GREAT EXPECTATIONS FOR MONDAY.

The Coney Island Jockey Club offers an experimental programme for Monday, which will be Labor Day. Henry of Navarre, who is commonly looked up to as the champion racehorse of the America of trades-unions and other labor organizations will go to Sheepshead Bay on that afternoon if they wish to see fine horses run fine races. "Richness is the word" for Monday's card. Not only is Henry of Navarre posted as a probable starter—and August Belmont being now the president of the Jockey Club, the sons et origo, the centre and circumference of American racing—he is likely to send Henry of Navarre to the post. The president of the Jockey Club would hardly allow his trainer to announce Henry of Navarre as a probable starter on Monday, unless he seriously intended to start Henry of Navarre.

That is a noble name—Henry of Navarre. Matthew Arnold said that Macaulay's verses were not genuine poetry and he said it over and over again. But the true test of poetry is its power to hold and to last. Matthew Arnold thought that he himself was a true poet and Macaulay was not. Sir Edwin Arnold conscientiously and strenuously adheres to the conviction that he (Sir Edwin) is a poet, whether Macaulay was or was not. But does any sane and intelligent human being sincerely believe that Matthew Arnold or Sir Edwin Arnold ever wrote a line that will live as long as Macaulay's ringing rhymes on Horatius, who held the bridge "in the brave days of old," and on Henry, whose white plume led the charge at Ivry?

Henry of Navarre avenged the Massacre of St. Bartholomew. Not altogether. But in part. That was glory enough for any man. And the sun of the Guises and of the Italian assassins, whom Catherine of Medici brought to France went down when Henry of Navarre, clad in steel, took the cities of France in his strong right hand. He was a great Henry—the greatest Henry beyond compare, whom France ever knew.

Henry of Navarre, of France, was a great being. But is Henry of Navarre, of New-Jersey, a great horse? Mr. Belmont thinks he is, or he would not have bought him from Byron McClelland at a great price. Everybody knows that at Morris Park last October Henry of Navarre made Clifford and Domino look like selling-platers. But Domino had a solution of continuity (as the physicians say)—a lesson-split, in plain Anglo-Saxon—in one of his hoofs last year, and he also had a mushy leg. But for his fragmentary and insidious hoof and his tottering and insincere leg, Domino would surely have been a great horse in 1894. Few agnostics would venture to assent that axiom. But the urgent problem for the minute, for the instant, on the dial of this date, is this: "Is Henry of Navarre a great horse?" Truly? Soundly? Stoutly? Strongly? Sturdily?

Perhaps so. But turfmen need further light. They may get it on Monday. Wait and see.

CONTESTS BETWEEN FAMOUS HORSES.

Mr. Belmont has both Henry of Navarre and Dorian in the Twin City Handicap on Monday. All his admirers and followers—who are many—devoutly hope that he will not take out Henry of Navarre, even though the heavens fall. Good turfmen pant for good horses, even as the hart pants for the water brooks.—(This has nothing to do with Plymouth Rock knickerbockers.) Every true turfman longs to see Henry of Navarre run on Monday. Surely August Belmont is too kind-hearted and too public-spirited to disappoint the universal yearn?

Other rapid racers are announced for Monday in the various contests—Rey El Santa Anita, Sir Excess, Sir Walter, Flying Dutchman, Rey del Carreras, Sir Francis, Bathampton, Crescent, Merino, Right Royal, April, and many others. It will be a great day if the labor organizations do their duty and go to Sheepshead Bay in a body.

After Henry of Navarre wins the Twin City Bay on Monday, and most of the turf experts think that he will win unless Mr. Belmont should Handicap at a mile and quarter at Sheepshead scratch him—Mr. Belmont is not, however, so foolish as to let the owner of One-Love, Hyland, scratch him, and he may possibly be willing to take up a glove if the owner of Henry of Navarre throws the gage, and then, as Charles A. Dana has often remarked in "The Sun," he may be happy yet.

You bet.

Or, in other words, and still seconding the motion of the honored editor of "The Sun," there'll be lots of fun.

EXPERTS PICKED THE WRONG RACERS.

If the sky had been clear yesterday morning the Coney Island Jockey Club would have welcomed a thick cloud of witnesses to its grounds. Although the air seemed to be dripping with urgent rain all day the throng of men and women who went to the track was positively bulky. Below the grandstand the company of layers of odds was of alarming size and of ravenous appetite. The professional layers-of-odds have made enormous deposits in their favorite banks since this meeting was begun. Many horses that carried the hopes and the nods and the winks, and the crooked fingers of armies of fond and hopeful backers, have gone down to dire and dusty defeat at this meeting. Remember that Handspring and Hastings had been backed with huge sums in the Futurety, both straight and place, and neither one caught the glances of the judges' for any place at all. So it has been in a distressing series of races at this meeting. Now, for example, Refuge, Formal and Annot Lyle were bet on profusely and copiously, both straight and place, for the first race yesterday, but no one of the three could get even third money.

In similar style an appalling number of plentifully backed horses has been running at this meeting. Hence the professional layers-of-odds are hilarious. They have become stupendously wealthy, every one of them, and tough turf gossip now has it that they are getting a syndicate which will relieve J. Pierpont Morgan and August Belmont of any trouble in taking care of the next issue of Federal bonds which President Cleveland and Secretary Carlisle may allow to favored friends at extravagance prices.

The Bookmakers' Syndicate will take all the Cleveland-Carlisle bonds hereafter, if the opportunity for colossal profits are as tempting as in the case of the extant Wall Street syndicate.

A GRAND, SWEET TURF SONG.

Philip J. Dwyer, John Hunter and A. H. Morris were immersed in a long and solemn conference in the box tier of the grandstand yesterday. Is it not likely that the three were composing "A grand, sweet song" to a Buzzard's Bay refrain for the improvement, advancement, enlightenment and elevation of the turf?

Turfmen notice with regret that Philip J. Dwyer and Michael F. Dwyer do not flock together at the racetrack in these days. Before Michael F. Dwyer went to England he and his brother were in the habit of sitting together in a raised-off section of the first tier of the grandstand at Sheepshead Bay. Their constant companions then were Richard Croker and William C. Daly. A wicked and licentious joker gave the name of the Buzzard's Roost to the raised-off part of the grandstand, undoubtedly alluding to Richard Croker's intense intimacy with the Prophet of Gray Gables, Buzzard's Bay. But now the two Dwyer brothers sit apart. Philip J. Dwyer is always with John Hunter. The two are almost inseparable. They are the Damon and Pythias of the turf nowadays. Nothing can part

them. Their friendship is so close as to be pathetic. But Michael F. Dwyer sits alone. Philip J. Dwyer and John Hunter are always in the aristocratic box tier now, while Michael F. Dwyer is always below stairs. It is touching. The two Dwyer brothers were constantly together for a long series of years. They were rarely seen apart. They were as inevitably and as invariably linked in the old days as were the Siamese twins. Together they enlarged, expanded and elevated the American turf, and all American lovers of racing owe them a big, fat debt of gratitude. What untoward fate can possibly have come between them? All disinterested and public-spirited Americans turfmen would like to see the Dwyer brothers reunited, and to see a magnificent stable of the finest horses in the country running under the formerly almost invincible colors of the famous firm which owned Rhadamanthus, Luke Blackburn, Hindoo, Miss Woodford, Barnes, Runnymede, George Kinney, Onondaga, Tremont, Hanover, Kingston and so many other celebrated winners of great races.

Michael F. Dwyer seems to have given up his plowing days. Apparently he is getting very little at Sheepshead Bay, if he is getting at all. Although Mr. Dwyer praised English racing and English turf method in his authentic talk, which was published in The Tribune after his return from England, many turfmen think that he had a disastrous experience in Great Britain, and that his campaign abroad was most disappointing.

And many people think that Richard Croker and Michael F. Dwyer are not nearly so intimate as were the Dwyers, and that was another reason for backing Cleveland in the presidential election of 1892.

Richard Croker has no use for losers.

The racing yesterday was varied, diverting and exciting. The Coney Island Jockey Club is furnishing excellent sport at this meeting.

COLONEL THOMPSON'S BROOKDALE FILLY.

Colonel William P. Thompson, of Brookdale, who is one of the stewards of the Jockey Club, was much pleased over the victory of his fleet filly One-Love, in the Belles' Stakes, the third race.

She had run a dazzling trial, and was the favorite. One-Love won the race in the easiest possible manner—in a walk, as the turf phrase goes. The filly is by the former English racehorse Minting, out of the Rat, my mother.

One-Love, trained by John J. Hyland, Mrs. David Gideon's trainer, and Mr. Gideon backed her. Griffin could not ride her, because August Belmont has said that he would not ride any horse that was highly confident that she would win.

Griffin rode One-Love. Colonel Thompson was talking with Philip J. Dwyer before the race, and told him that he ought to be a good horse.

Colonel Thompson said that Mr. Dwyer expected that Axion would outrun One-Love. Hyland, Griffin and myself, said Colonel Thompson. My filly does not heat Axion down, and beat her easily, then I know nothing about training race-horses."

Hyland was entirely right and Mr. Dwyer was mistaken.

SOME HINTS ABOUT TRAINING.

Probably Philip J. Dwyer is fully satisfied with the way in which Handspring and Axion have been trained this year. But thoughtful turfmen who saw that Handspring ran himself into form at Gravesend and Sheepshead in May and June, after making wretched failures in his early performances, are inclined to think that if David Gideon had owned Handspring and Axion and John J. Hyland had trained them, the result would have been far better than they actually have run, and would have won far more money than they actually have won.

Some trainers can get horses ready for races.

Axion's running in the Belles' Stakes was gaudy. It is no exaggeration to say that her performance was at least fifteen pounds below her best form at the first meeting of the Coney Island Jockey Club.

Difies runs in that way against other diles when they are trained in brilliant and effective style, by thoroughly competent, intelligent, able and accomplished trainers of genuine skill, sagacity, judgment, discretion, shrewdness, capacity and genius.

GLIMPSES OF VARIOUS THINGS.

The Keene filly Irish Red was ridden superbly by Sims in the fifth race, and won in scintillating style. She is fast in a sprint. The Keene colors have been seen in front far too seldom in 1895, and every unselfish and loyal supporter of the turf was glad to see Mr. Keene successful, and lamented that his colors had not been to the fore this year in a dozen or more of the most important stakes in the country.

Turfmen and horse-owners all over the country regret the death of Andrew Thompson, who died at McClain's Hotel, in Brooklyn, yesterday. Andrew Thompson was the best known of all the colored trainers. It is safe to say that few men, white or colored, on the turf had more real friends than Andrew Thompson. In 1872 Matthew Byrnes, who trained Limehouse and other horses for H. L. Hitchcock, was racing at Charleston, S. C., where he engaged Thompson as an exercising boy. When the stable was shipped to the North, Thompson entered the service of Ephraim Snedeker, and remained with him until James Rowe began his career as the trainer at the Dwyer Brothers' stable. Thompson was Rowe's foreman, and proved a valuable assistant to him in the days of Hyland, Luke Blackwood, Bramble and other famous horses. When he opened Thompson as an exercising boy. 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